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Japan

Grain and Feed

MAFF Announces 3rd Ordinary and SBS Minimum Access Tenders for Rice 2001

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Report Highlights:

On October 12, the Food Agency (FA) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) announced it will conduct the third Ordinary Minimum Access (OMA) rice tender for about 98,000 metric tons and a Simultaneous Buy and Sell (SBS) rice tender for 25,000 metric tons for Japan Fiscal Year 2001 (April 2001 - March 2002).

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Tokyo [JA1], JA

The Food Agency of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) announced it will conduct the third Ordinary Minimum Access (OMA) and Simultaneous Buy and Sell (SBS) tenders for Japan Fiscal Year 2001 (April 2001 - March 2002) as follows.

Ordinary Minimum Access (OMA) Rice Tender:

Tender Date: October 19, 2001

Quantity: About 98,000 metric tons

Of this total, 76,000 metric tons will be country allocations with a U.S. allocation of 36,000 metric tons (milled medium grain rice at 30,360 metric tons and broken medium grain rice at 5,640 metric tons). The remaining 22,000 metric tons will be a global tender including 12,000 metric tons for milled medium grain rice and 10,000 metric tons for milled long grain rice.

Note: The Food Agency changed a specification requirement for broken rice where a maximum of only 5% commingling of complete (unbroken) rice is allowed. The previous specification was a 10% tolerance of unbroken rice. According to a major importer, the Food Agency explained to importers they took this measure to help prevent a practice by distributors of sifting broken rice and separating and selling complete (unbroken) rice.

In addition, under the global allocation, the Food Agency made the requirement for permitted commingling percentage of broken rice in milled long grain rice less strict (from a maximum 10% to 15%), and the required quality of milled medium grain rice has also been degraded (from No. 2 grade or higher to No. 3 grade or higher). FA intends to lower its purchase price since this rice is likely to be set aside for food aid programs.

Simultaneous Buy and Sell (SBS) Rice Tender:

Tender Date: November 9, 2001

Quantity: About 25,000 metric tons

Of the total, 22,500 metric tons will be allocated for regular rice and 2,500 metric tons for broken rice.

End of report.